

To: ERD/DEHN (EPA5511)  
To: T. MASSEY (EPA9374)  
From: T. MASSEY (EPA9374) Delivered: Thu 30-July-87 8:27 EDT Sys 163 (1  
Subject: VISUAL PACKING CO. FIRE POLREP #2  
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POLREP 2  
VISUAL PACKING CO. FIRE  
GERMANTOWN, PHILADELPHIA CO., PA  
SITE ASSESSMENT

ATTN: TOM MASSEY AND TIM FIELDS

I. SITUATION

- A. PERSONNEL ON SCENE: TAT-3. EPA-2, PFD, PPD, PRP, PRP ATTORNEY, INS. ADJUSTER, BLDG. TENNANTS, NEIGHBORS, PHILA. LIC. & INSPECTION.
- B. FIRE STABILIZED THIS 7-14-87
- C. FIRE MARSHALL ULSHAFFER SUSPECTED ARSON. CAUSE OF FIRE SOURCE UNKNOWN AT THIS TIME. FIRE MARSHALL STILL INVESTIGATING.
- D. SITE SECURITY BY CITY OF PHILA. DEPARTS AT 1700 HRS. VERNON (PRP) ESTABLISHES 24 HR SECURITY.
- E. WEATHER: CLEAR, COOL 70'S.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

- A. SITE ASSESSMENT MADE BY PFD, EPA AND TAT. SITE INVENTORY AND PHOTOS BY TAT.
- B. PRP VERNON VERBALLY AGREES TO CLEAN UP PROPERTY AND HAZ. MATERIALS ON PROPERTY, EXCLUDING DRUMS ON ROOF ABANDONED BY A FORMER TENNANT. DUE TO GOOD FAITH INDICATED BY PRP ENFORCEMENT WILL WRITE CONSENT AGREEMENT.
- C. PGW ON SCENE TO SECURE UTILITIES.
- D. CITY OF PHILA. LIC. & INSPECTION ON SCENE TO PERFORM INSPECTION AND DETERMINE CODE VIOLATIONS.
- E. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INFORMATION:
  - 1. TANKS-6, 3 OF METHYL T-BUTYL ETHER (MTBE), 700 GAL EACH. 1 EMPTY. 1 ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL (IPA), 600 GAL. 1 MINERAL SPIRITS, 900 GAL. 1 UNDERGROUND METHANOL (MEOH) 7000 GAL.
  - 2. DRUMS-NUMEROUS, LABELS INCLUDE:
    - SODIUM SILICATE
    - ADHESIVE (UNSPECIFIED TYPE/COMPOSITION)
    - CEMENT RUBBER
    - SILICONE (UNSPECIFIED COMPOSITION)
    - MAGIC LUX LATEX
    - DIETHYLENE GLYCOL
    - BILOO WHITE LITHIUM NO. 2 (PAINT)
    - DRUMS WERE LOCATED ON THE MAIN FLOOR OF THE BUILDING AND ON THE ROOF.

100004

3. MISC. CONTAINERS - 1 GALLON CAN OF TETRAHYDROFURAN (THF). PALLETS OF GLUE CONTAINERS, LABELS INDICATE PRESENCE OF TOLUENE.
  4. UNKNOWNNS - UNKNOWNNS INCLUDE UNLABELED DRUMS, DAMAGED DRUMS. SOME OILS NOTED.
  5. EXPLOSIMETER AND HNU READINGS - EXPLOSIMETER WAS NEGATIVE THROUGHOUT BUILDING, HNU READINGS WERE AS FOLLOWS : 0-20 UNITS GENERAL THROUGHOUT BUILDING. 50-100 UNITS AROUND TANKS, 2-20 UNITS STEADY DOWNSTAIRS.
- F. OSC INFORMED PRP VERNON OF NON-NOTIFICATION AND ADVISED PRP TO NOTIFY EPA ERG RAC OF RELEASE VIA FIRE AND RUNOFF.
- G. EPA ENFORCEMENT (STUETEVILLE) ESTABLISHES THAT PRP NOT HANDLE ANY MATERIAL IN BUILDING UNTIL WRITTEN CONSENT AGREEMENT IS REACHED BETWEEN ENFORCEMENT AND PRP.
- H. FIRE MARSHALL ULSHAFFER DETERMINES THAT A FIRE AND EXPLOSION THREAT STILL EXISTS ON PROPERTY DUE TO MATERIAL RESIDUES AND LEAKING CONTAINERS ON PROPERTY.
- I. CITY OF PHILADELPHIA LIC. & INSPECTION INDICATES THAT A CRANE WILL BE BROUGHT IN ON SCENE TO LEVEL PORTIONS OF THE BUILDING DUE TO LACK OF STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY WHICH POSES A THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY.
- J. ENFORCEMENT (STUETEVILLE) TO PURSUE CONTACT WITH PREVIOUS TENNANT WHO ABANDONED APPROX. 25-30 DRUMS OF UNKNOWNNS ON THE PREMISES.
- K. ACCESS WALKWAY TO SEPTA TRAIN STATION IS LOCATED ADJACENT TO PORTIONS OF THE DAMAGED BUILDING. CITY POLICE BLOCKED OFF ENTRANCE TO WALKWAY.
- L. OSC CONTACTED OSHA REGARDING SAFETY AND INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE ISSUES EXISTING ON THE PROPERTY. DUE TO THE TYPES OF SUBSTANCES INVOLVED IN THE FIRE, WHICH ARE STILL IN DAMAGED CONTAINERS AND SOME UNCONTAINED MATERIALS SPREAD ALL OVER THE BUILDING, APPROPRIATE WORKER ATTIRE IS LEVEL "B". CONSTANT AIR MONITORING SHOULD OCCUR WHILE WORKING INSIDE THE BUILDING.
- M. PRP VERNON ADVISES OSC

### III. FUTURE PLANS

- A. CERCLA ENFORCEMENT TO WRITE CONSENT AGREEMENT WITH PRP VERNON.
- B. CERCLA ENFORCEMENT TO MONITOR PRP CLEANUP.
- C. OSC TO PURSUE ACTION ON ABANDONED DRUMS ON PROPERTY.